

## Waterford Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Exercise

Baton Rouge - GOHSEP recently worked with our local and state partners on an emergency preparedness exercise involving Entergy's Waterford Nuclear Generating Station in St. Charles Parish.

Participants worked through various topics and action items like public notice/warnings, deploying field monitoring teams, evacuations and the release of public information based on emergency conditions developed for the exercise event.

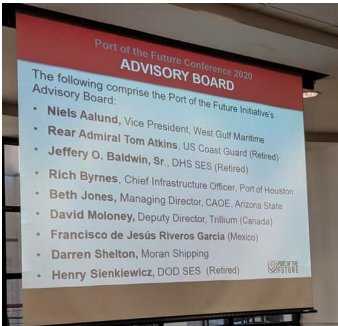
Waterford is one of three nuclear facilities; two in Louisiana and one in Mississippi, that our GOHSEP staff regularly trains with and supports during these types of exercises.

For additional information, please contact Mike Steele at [mike.steele@la.gov](mailto:mike.steele@la.gov).



GOHSEP's Mike Steel gives a mock press briefing during the recent exercise.

## GOHSEP Participates In Higher Ed Collaborative



Russellville, Arkansas - In October, GOHSEP's Preparedness team participated in the FEMA Region 6, Higher Ed Collaborative at Arkansas Tech University. This forum connects the regional educational community. Educators engage in an ongoing dialogue to share information and foster collaboration among universities, colleges and Centers of Excellence in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas to increase resiliency and enhance disaster preparations and response efforts in emergency Management and Homeland security agencies, practitioners and other vested stakeholders. Topics included campus preparedness, mitigation planning and cybersecurity.

For more information, please contact Rubby Douglas at [rubby.douglas2@la.gov](mailto:rubby.douglas2@la.gov).

## From The Director



Hello everyone,

We have finally gotten a break from the heat and drought-like conditions over the past few months. Hurricane season is winding down, but there are still many things going on involving our staff and our partners.

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. It's a great time to review your personal and work-related networks, Apps and devices for potential issues. State cybersecurity experts Devin King and Dustin Glover helped lead a tremendous effort by the state, local and federal agencies involved in response to a recent ransomware attack on several school districts across Louisiana. Governor Edwards declared a cyber-emergency for the first time in Louisiana history. This coordinated effort helped recover data and protect the impacted offices, while mitigating any new issues related to the attack. Devin and Dustin join us for interviews on The GOHSEP Get A Game Podcast to recap the emergency and provide great security information we can all use as technology continues to grow. If you have a moment, subscribe to the podcast at Spotify, Apple Podcast or many other podcast stores.

I also want to take a moment to remember those killed in the devastating hotel collapse in New Orleans. It shows how an emergency can literally happen in a moment's notice. Hats off to the first responders and emergency managers handling that situation. Many restaurant employees and other volunteers stepped up to help others in a time of need. Our prayers and with the families of those hurt or killed in that accident.

Thank you for all you do keeping our citizens safe.

- James Waskom

# Federal Disaster Declaration Amended To Include Additional Assistance For Parishes Impacted By Hurricane

Baton Rouge, October 11, 2019 - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has amended Louisiana's major disaster declaration to include additional assistance for parishes impacted by Hurricane Barry.

## **St. Landry Parish- Public Assistance**

Categories A-G

## **Cameron Parish - Public Assistance**

Categories A-B (including direct federal assistance)

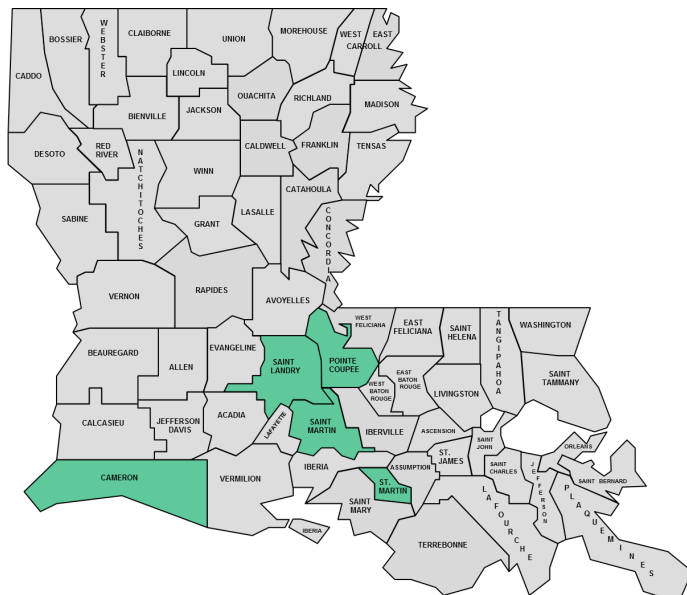
## **Pointe Coupee and St. Martin Parishes- Public Assistance**

Categories C-G (previously approved for A-B, direct federal assistance)

The Public Assistance categories are as follows:

- Category A: Debris Removal.
- Category B: Emergency Protective Measures.
- Category C: Roads and Bridges.
- Category D: Water Control Facilities.
- Category E: Buildings and Equipment.
- Category F: Utilities.
- Category G: Parks, Recreational Facilities and Other Items

Note: The state earlier submitted an amendment request to FEMA for this disaster declaration based on additional damage assessment data. It includes a request for St. Tammany Parish to receive Categories A-B.



## Statewide Exercise Planning Meeting

Baton Rouge - GOHSEP facilitated a planning meeting in October for the 2020 Statewide Exercise. The meeting included related event partners and stakeholders. The group met to examine efforts, and assess plans and capabilities for both response and recovery efforts during the upcoming event.

For more information related to the meeting or upcoming exercise, please contact Michael Zaruba at [michael.zaruba@la.gov](mailto:michael.zaruba@la.gov).



## The Latest GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast is Available

A new episode of The GOHSEP Get A Game Plan Podcast is now available!

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. On this episode, we have practical information to help you and your business stay safe from an online attack. Also, Governor John Bel Edwards declared a Cyber Emergency earlier this fall after several Louisiana school districts were targets of a ransomware attack. It was the first time a state emergency was declared due to this type of incident.

We will speak with one of the experts who helped the state manage this threat with no disruption to students heading back to class for the fall.



Find a link at [GetAGamePlan.org](http://GetAGamePlan.org) or download and subscribe to the podcast from Spotify or any other major podcast store. or many other podcast stores.



## Intern Writes Resolution Recognizing GOHSEP



Chris Ward (Center) with Governor Edwards and Chief of Staff, Mark Cooper.

Chris Ward, our Intern from the Governor's Lamar Fellows Program last summer, wrote this resolution for GOHSEP and Governor Edwards. It was subsequently passed by the LA TECH student body senate.

Chris Ward (LA Tech Senior Majoring in Economics) was assigned to GOHSEP under the Governor's Fellows Program. This program pairs selected college and university students to experience public policy in action, learn the rich history and current affairs of Louisiana government, and earn three hours of academic credit.

Chris is no stranger to response and recovery as he was "boots on the ground" in Ruston in the wake of the tornados of April 2019. Chris is a leader in LA Tech's Student Government Association and was instrumental in organizing student support to help response efforts, and even spearheaded efforts to raise over \$2.1 million to help sororities and fraternities rebuild and recover. His experience earmarked him to be paired with GOHSEP for the summer of 2019 where he experienced outreach efforts, served on Preliminary Damage Assessment teams, participated in various policy and planning meetings, and researched information to develop his final project proposal on a State Funded Individual Assistance Program.

GOHSEP enjoyed providing this internship opportunity for the Governor's Fellows Program. Chris left his impact here at GOHSEP, but we believe it forged quite a long-lasting impression on his heart for public service. In fact, Chris authored this resolution applauding efforts and providing recognition of the Governor and GOHSEP.



### Recognition for Governor John Bel Edwards and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

1. **Whereas:** the Louisiana Tech Student Government Association, hereafter referred to as the SGA, is the governing body of Louisiana Tech University;
2. **Whereas:** according to 1.03 A. of the Constitution of the SGA of Louisiana Tech University, which is included in the list of purposes of the SGA reads, "To serve as a channel of communication to the faculty and administration and to all levels of state government as to the opinions, wishes, and needs of the student body;"
3. **Whereas:** on the morning of April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Louisiana Tech University and the Ruston community was struck by a devastating tornadic storm;
4. **Whereas:** The damages occurred by this weather event were very significant and nationally received attention for the city of Ruston and Louisiana Tech University;
5. **Whereas:** Governor John Bel Edwards and The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) immediately responded by declaring a state of emergency for the area providing much needed assistance and additional first responders;
6. **Whereas:** GOHSEP conducted post disaster assessments of the damaged areas days after the event to file claims for the citizens, city, and university to receive federal assistance from FEMA;
7. **Whereas:** Shortly after GOHSEP's claim was filed for the area, President Donald Trump signed a federal disaster declaration to help Ruston and Louisiana Tech University fund their recovery efforts;
8. **Whereas:** This declaration covers up to 75% of the damages to public infrastructure and our campus which helps our community out tremendously;
9. **Whereas:** without Governor Edwards and GOHSEP's immediate response the recovery efforts for the community would have been prolonged and strained local resources;
10. **Therefore Be It Resolved By The Louisiana Tech SGA That:** we would like to express our gratitude to our Governor and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness for their steadfast efforts to help the people of Louisiana;
11. **Therefore Be It Further Resolved That:** a suitable copy of this resolution be submitted to the office of the Governor and The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director, James B. Waskom.

Chris Ward, Senior Class Senator

Zac Little, Speaker of the Senate

Abigail Olsen, SGA President

Vote Results: 12, 1, 1

September 17, 2019 7:19 pm  
Submission Date/Time

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

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## Director Waskom Speaks At Acadiana Cybersecurity Forum

Director Jim Waskom was one of the featured speakers recently at the Acadiana Cybersecurity Forum event held at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

The recent cybersecurity attacks across the state and country have highlighted that the services of city and local governments, a necessity for the functioning of our society, can come to a halt by a disruption of their IT infrastructure. The goal of the "Acadiana Cybersecurity Forum: Protecting the Public Sector" is to drive awareness of cyber security threats to our local municipal organizations, to share best practices in cybersecurity to responsible managers at the local public entities, and to connect these cybersecurity managers at local public entities to Federal and State resources.

The event is part of the State's Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a collaborative effort between government and industry to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and to ensure that all Louisianans have the resources they need to be safer and more secure online.

## Parish Profile - Iberia Parish

After years of planning, the first earth has been turned for the foundation of the first building in Iberia Parish specifically designed to survive Category 5 hurricane winds.

About 50 people gathered Thursday morning, 27 June 2019 on Ember Drive at the Acadiana Regional Airport for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new home of the Iberia Parish Communications District/911 and the Iberia Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness offices. The building is designed to withstand 170 mph winds and house emergency services personnel during a major hurricane.

The project was funded with a combination of Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds and Iberia Parish Communications District funds.



Pictured from left to right: Iberia Parish OHSEP/911 Director Prescott Marshall, Dwight Descan of MD Descan Construction, Iberia Parish Fire Protection District 1 Chief and 911 Board Chairman Guy Bonin, Iberia Parish District 10 Councilman Eugene Olivier, Iberia Parish District 4 Councilman Lloyd Brown, Iberia Parish President Larry Richard, Iberia Parish Council Chairman Paul Landry and Jack Watson of Gasaway, Gasaway Bankston Architects.



Artist's rendition of the new Iberia Parish Communications District/911 and the Iberia Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness offices.

**Founded:** October 30, 1868  
**Named For:** Iberian Peninsula (Europe)  
**Largest City:** New Iberia  
**Total Area:** 1,031 square miles  
**Population (2015):** 74,103



OHSEP Director  
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[iberiaparishgovernment.com/2018-admin-e911.asp](http://iberiaparishgovernment.com/2018-admin-e911.asp)



## BIRTHDAYS

For questions or comments about the birthdays, contact: Tiffany Johnson - [tiffany.l.johnson@la.gov](mailto:tiffany.l.johnson@la.gov)

<b>LaKeivea Warren</b> (Public Assistance SALs)	10/03
<b>Hector Villarreal</b> (Regional Coordination)	10/03
<b>Lorarik Brown</b> (Recovery Grants Administration)	10/04
<b>Pamela Roussel</b> (Regional Coordination)	10/04
<b>Leah Jarrell</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	10/05
<b>Charles Yankowsky</b> (State Management Cost)	10/06
<b>Nathan Gary</b> (Public Assistance SALs)	10/08
<b>Douglas Nagle</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	10/09
<b>Roland Spano</b> (Hazard Mitigation SALs)	10/09
<b>Raina Cazier-Wilson</b> (Operations)	10/09
<b>David Youngblood</b> (Facility Management)	10/10
<b>Autumn Smith</b> (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	10/12
<b>Shawanda Mallet</b> (Sub-Recipient Monitoring)	10/14
<b>Rose Banye</b> (Public Assistance Closeout)	10/18
<b>Lisa Jones</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	10/19
<b>Willie Washington</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	10/19
<b>Keith Dennis</b> (Public Assistance Closeout)	10/23
<b>Charles Lang</b> (Recovery Grants Administration)	10/23
<b>Cherie Walber</b> (Hazard Mitigation Grants)	10/25
<b>Clayton Haley</b> (Recovery Grants Administration)	10/27
<b>Genea Catron</b> (Preparedness)	10/28
<b>Trameka Coleman-Jones</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	10/29
<b>Norman Pineda</b> (Preparedness)	10/30

<b>Donna White-Barnes</b> (Sub-recipient Monitoring)	10/31
<b>Michael Hamilton</b> (Operations)	11/05
<b>Felice Means</b> (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	11/05
<b>Aubrey Jones</b> (Public Assistance SALs)	11/07
<b>Jane Ingram</b> (Recovery Grants Administration)	11/08
<b>Claudia Kirtikar</b> (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	11/12
<b>Christina Dayries</b> (Grants & Administration)	11/13
<b>Casey Tingle</b> (Executive)	11/14
<b>Jim Waskom</b> (Executive)	11/15
<b>Tenesha Wilson</b> (Hazard Mitigation Grants)	11/15
<b>Tsz Lee</b> (Recovery Grants Administration)	11/16
<b>Austin Dixon</b> (Operations)	11/18
<b>Euclid Talley</b> (Homeland Security)	11/18
<b>Teidra Clark</b> (Hazard Mitigation Grants)	11/19
<b>Steven Garcia</b> (Hazard Mitigation Tech Services)	11/20
<b>Rubby Douglas</b> (Preparedness)	11/21
<b>Cameron Bass</b> (Hazard Mitigation Closeout)	11/22
<b>Daniel Crothers</b> (Public Assistance Tech Services)	11/25
<b>Christopher Guilbeaux</b> (Emergency Management)	11/25
<b>Karen Washington</b> (Public Assistance Closeout)	11/26
<b>Marc Aucoin</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	11/27
<b>Chad Hargon</b> (Public Assistance Grants)	11/29

## UPCOMING EVENTS

To sign up or for more information about the training, visit: [gohsep.la.gov/resources/training-events-schedule](http://gohsep.la.gov/resources/training-events-schedule)

## TRAINING

Nov 4-5, 2019	AWR 122 Law Enforcement Prevention & Deterrence of Terrorist Acts - Scott, Louisiana
Nov 5-6, 2019	ICS 300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders - DeRidder, Louisiana
Nov 4-6, 2019	PER-340 Active Threat Integrated Response Course (ATIRC) - Kenner, Louisiana
Nov 6-7, 2019	ICS 300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents for Operational First Responders - Alexandria, Louisiana
Nov 7-8, 2019	ICS 400 Advanced Incident Command System - DeRidder, Louisiana
Nov 8, 2019	ICS 400 Advanced Incident Command System - Alexandria, Louisiana
Nov 13, 2019	ICS 400 Advanced Incident Command System - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Nov 13-14, 2019	MGT 317 Disaster Management for Public Services - New Orleans, Louisiana
Dec 3-4, 2019	MGT-319 Medical Countermeasures: Point of Dispensing, Plan & Response - Monroe, Louisiana
Dec 4-5, 2019	MGT 341 Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals & Healthcare Organizations - New Orleans, Louisiana
Dec 9-11, 2019	PER 229 Intro to Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) - Lake Charles, Louisiana
Jan 28-29, 2020	MGT 343 - Disaster Management for Water & Wastewater Utilities - Chalmette, Louisiana

## PROMOTIONS

**Brittany Humphries**- Group Lead (Public Assistance Grants)**Miranda Levey-Young** - State Applicant Liaison (Public Assistance SALs)

## NEW AGENCY HIRES

**Travis Johnson** - Interoperability Program Manager (Homeland Security and Interoperability)**John Evans** - Recovery Grants Analyst  
(Recovery Grants Administration)**Trevis Thompson** - Homeland Security Officer (Homeland Security and Interoperability)**Theresa Sherburne** - Recovery Grants Analyst (Recovery Grants Administration)**Aubrey Jones** - State Applicant Liaison (Public Assistance SALs)

## UPCOMING STATE HOLIDAYS

**Veterans Day** - Nov. 11, 2019**Thanksgiving Day** - Nov. 28, 2019**Acadiana Day** - Nov. 29, 2019 (pending Governor's proclamation)

## Request For Articles

If you would like to include an article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact: Your designated Agency Representative orMike Steele  
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[mike.steele@la.gov](mailto:mike.steele@la.gov)Steven Burr  
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